



State of Utah

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DWS News Release

For 9:00 a.m. Release

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UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: June 2006

Utah's number of non-farm wage and salaried jobs registered a year-over increase of 4.8 percent for June 2006. Approximately 55,600 new jobs have developed in the Utah economy over the past year, raising total wage and salary employment in Utah to 1,204,500. This rate keeps Utah within the top five states nationwide for employment growth. The last time Utah experienced an employment growth rate in the high 4-percent range was in early 1997.

Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions, the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate, registered 3.1 percent in June, down 1.2 percentage points from the unemployment rate of 4.3 percent registered a year ago in June, 2005. Approximately 40,000 Utahns were unemployed in June, 2006 as compared to 54,000 in June, 2005. May's unemployment rate is unrevised at 3.5 percent.

Utah Labor Market Indicators June 2006

Employment Growth: 4.8%
Employment Increase: 55,600
Unemployment Rate: 3.1%

United States

Employment Growth: 1.4%
Unemployment Rate: 4.6%

Mark Knold, Senior Economist for the Department of Workforce Services commented, "Utah's labor market indicators are looking like a repeat of portions of the 1990s. Employment growth is in the high 4-percent range, and unemployment is trying to drop below 3 percent. We haven't seen this combination since 1997. Together they produced an interesting phenomenon. Employment growth tapered off in Utah after 1997 while the unemployment rate remained very low for several more years. This suggests that it might be difficult to sustain high employment growth rates in conjunction with an extremely low unemployment rate as we progress forward. Low unemployment rates hint of pressure on the economy through restricted availability of labor. It appears we are doing okay now, but we'll observe if the business community's desire to add future jobs in Utah can be fully met by finding enough workers to fill those slots. The pace of in-migration will probably be the decisive factor."

Since June 2005, the United States' economy has added 1.8 million new jobs—a growth rate of 1.4 percent. The approximately 55,600 new jobs in Utah represent a growth rate of 4.8 percent, and that represents about 3.1 percent of all the new jobs added in the United States over the past year. The United States' unemployment rate registered 4.6 percent in June.

All employment sectors in Utah continue to add new jobs, and the volume of jobs they are adding is pressing higher. This ranges from a high of 12,900 new jobs over the past year in the construction sector, to 900 new jobs in the small category labeled "other services." Professional

and business services added 12,500 new jobs over the past year, so in combination with the construction industry, these two sectors account for just under half of all the new jobs created in Utah over the past year. Information concerning growth in the remaining industrial sectors can be observed from the tables and graphs accompanying this press release.

Utah's employment growth environment is not only characterized by all the industrial sectors adding new jobs, but all of the state's various geographical regions are also sharing in the economic good times.

Arguably the most robust region in the state right now is the Uintah Basin, energized by its oil and gas industry. The tri-county Uintah Basin area produced an employment growth rate of 14 percent over the past year. It shouldn't be surprising that the high cost of oil and natural gas has spurred a nationwide increase in the exploration and development of new sources of these energy components. Both Uintah and Duchesne counties are seeing a boom that rivals the rapid employment growth that went along with their last energy boom in the 1970s. Is the area building up for another collapse? Probably not. The energy environment has changed much since the 1970s. If tar sand or oil shale development ever comes to fruition, then Uintah County hasn't seen anything yet.

While the growth in the Uintah Basin is driven by the energy boom, and the employment gains are trickling down into other industries as well. Construction jobs are on the rise. The need to move more goods and raw materials has produced an increase in trucking jobs. Population growth in the area is pushing up retail jobs, and generating more employment in the financial sector due to increased transactions.

Then there is Washington County and the southwest corner of the state. Recently, the St. George area was measured as the country's fastest-growing metropolitan economy, based upon employment growth. A June growth rate of 8.5 percent probably does nothing to drop St. George from that position. Prosperity is not just limited to Washington County. Iron County to the north, centered around Cedar City, added 7.9 percent more jobs over the past year. And Kane County topped that with a 12-percent year-over employment growth rate.

The mountainous counties of Summit and Wasatch, east of Salt Lake City and Provo, are experiencing high employment growth percentages—measuring at 12.2 and 13.0 percent respectively. Population growth is spurring construction growth in both counties. More people are also supporting more retail trade outlets. In Summit County the leisure and hospitality industry is also doing well, with employment gains in both lodging establishments and restaurants.

Even normally tranquil southeastern Utah is springing to life. Both Emery and San Juan counties have a long history of being less-than-stellar economies. But currently, employment is growing at 9.3 and 3.6 percent respectively. In Emery, new mining, construction, utility, and trucking jobs are fueling the economy. Carbon County, which can also see long periods of economic stagnation, is also thriving, growing by 8.6 percent. Here it's mining, construction, trucking, and retail trade that are adding new jobs.

Utah's July employment numbers will be released at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 15, 2006.

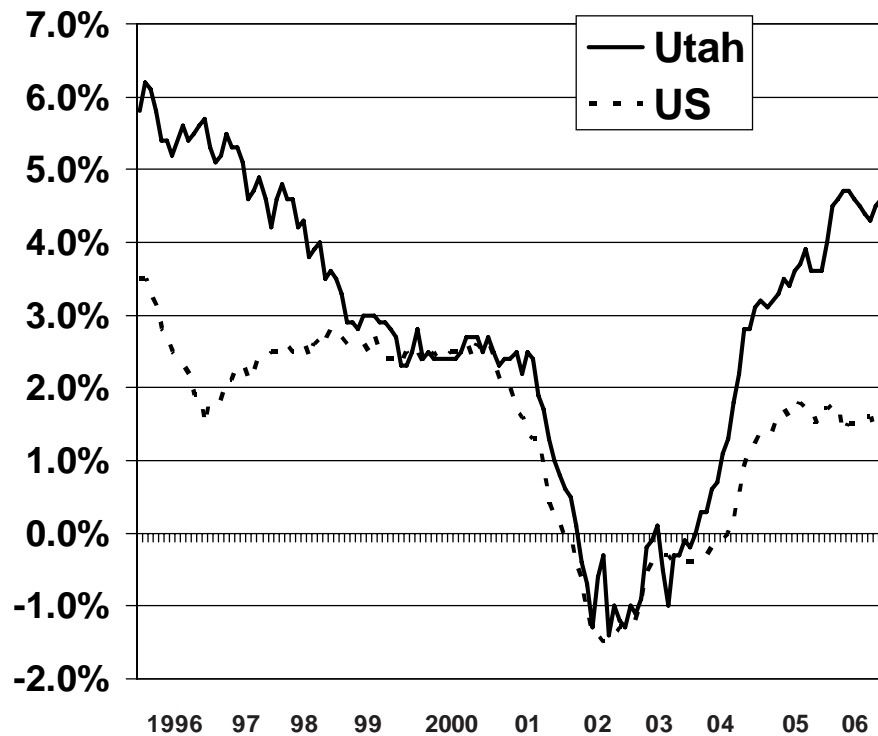
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Utah Nonagricultural Jobs by Industry and Components of the Labor Force

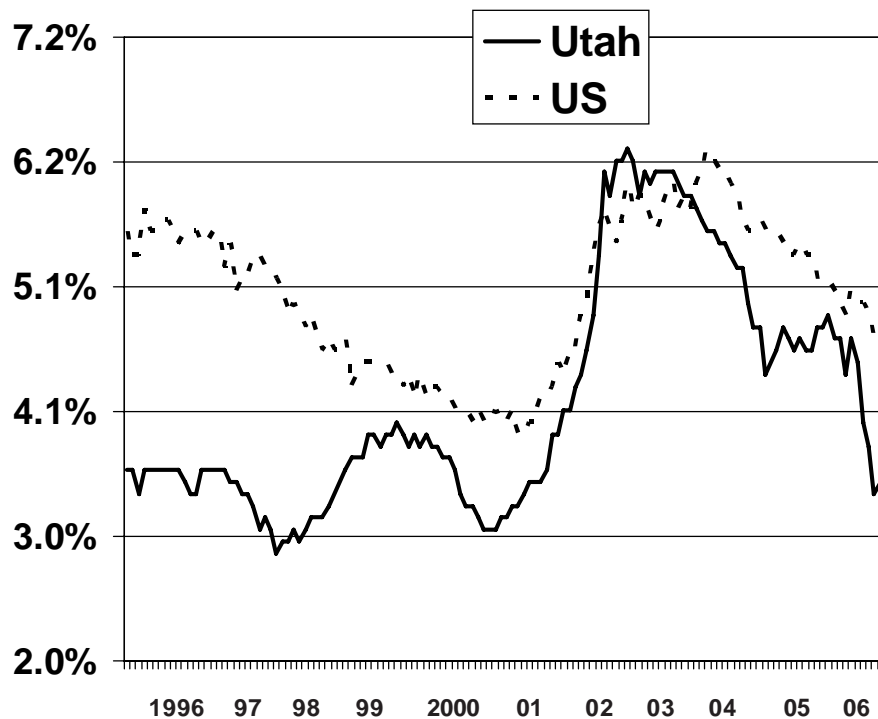
Numbers are in thousands and are not seasonally adjusted.	June(f) 2006	June 2005	Percentage Change	May(r) 2006	May 2005	Percentage Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	1,317.3	1,278.6	3.0	1,309.8	1,259.4	4.0
Employed	1,274.1	1,221.1	4.3	1,266.6	1,206.0	5.0
Unemployed	43.2	57.5	-24.9	43.2	53.4	-19.1
Unemployment Rate	3.3	4.5		3.3	4.2	
NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)	1,204.5	1,148.9	4.8	1,192.6	1,140.0	4.6
GOODS PRODUCING	227.2	209.5	8.4	222.6	206.0	8.1
Natural Resources, and Mining	10.0	8.5	17.1	9.8	8.4	17.4
Construction	96.2	83.3	15.6	92.8	80.6	15.1
Construction of Buildings	21.7	18.2	19.3	21.0	17.7	18.6
Heavy and Civil Engineering	9.5	8.9	7.0	8.9	8.2	
Specialty Trade Contractors	65.1	56.2	15.7	62.9	54.7	15.0
Manufacturing	120.9	117.7	2.7	120.0	117.0	2.5
Durable Goods	81.4	79.0	3.0	80.6	78.4	2.9
Primary and Fabricated Metals	15.9	15.0	5.9	15.8	14.7	7.4
Computer and Electronic Products	11.1	11.0	1.0	11.0	10.9	1.7
Transportation and Equipment Manufacturing	14.6	14.5	0.8	14.5	14.4	0.8
Non-Durable Goods	39.6	38.7	2.3	39.3	38.3	2.6
Food Manufacturing	13.1	13.3	-1.4	13.0	13.2	-1.3
Printing and Related Support Activities	6.6	6.6	0.6	6.7	6.7	-0.7
SERVICES PROVIDING	977.4	939.4	4.0	970.0	933.9	3.9
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	232.3	223.8	3.8	230.9	223.1	3.5
Wholesale Trade	45.5	43.3	5.3	45.2	43.0	5.0
Retail Trade	137.4	133.4	3.0	136.4	132.9	2.7
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	17.9	17.1	4.4	17.8	17.0	4.4
Food and Beverage Stores	22.5	22.0	2.4	22.5	22.0	2.5
General Merchandise Stores	26.4	25.6	3.0	25.8	25.6	0.9
Transportation and Utilities	49.4	47.1	4.8	49.2	46.9	4.9
Utilities	4.0	4.0	1.5	4.0	3.8	6.1
Transportation & Warehousing	45.4	43.2	5.1	45.2	43.1	4.8
Air Transportation	6.9	6.8	1.1	6.8	6.8	0.0
Truck Transportation	18.0	17.5	2.7	17.9	17.5	2.4
Information	33.1	31.8	4.3	33.1	31.8	4.1
Publishing Industries	9.5	9.2	4.1	9.5	9.1	4.3
Motion Picture and Sound Recording	5.1	4.4	15.9	4.7	4.5	4.0
Telecommunications	5.9	5.5	7.0	5.8	5.8	-0.2
Internet Service Providers	8.1	7.9	2.3	8.2	7.8	5.1
Financial Activities	70.6	67.2	5.2	70.4	66.8	5.4
Finance and Insurance	53.1	50.9	4.3	53.0	50.7	4.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	17.6	16.3	7.8	17.4	16.1	8.0
Professional and Business Services	159.3	146.8	8.6	157.2	145.6	8.0
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	61.2	54.4	12.5	60.2	54.4	10.8
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	11.6	10.8	7.7	11.4	10.6	7.9
Computer Systems Design and Related	13.5	11.8	13.9	13.5	11.9	13.6
Management of Companies and Enterprises	21.2	20.9	1.3	21.1	20.9	0.9
Administration & Support						
& Waste Management & Remediation	76.9	71.4	7.6	75.9	70.4	7.9
Employment Services	27.0	22.0	22.6	25.9	20.9	24.1
Business Support Services	17.1	17.0	0.4	17.3	17.6	-2.0
Education and Health Services	131.4	126.1	4.2	130.6	125.3	4.2
Educational Services	27.0	25.8	4.7	26.9	25.8	4.5
Health Services and Social Assistance	104.4	100.3	4.1	103.6	99.5	4.1
Ambulatory Health Care Services	39.8	38.0	4.8	39.4	37.7	4.7
Hospitals	30.0	29.1	3.0	29.8	28.9	3.2
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	19.5	18.8	3.8	19.3	18.6	3.8
Social Assistance	15.0	14.3	4.9	15.1	14.4	5.0
Leisure and Hospitality	109.0	106.1	2.8	106.0	103.2	2.7
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	17.9	17.3	3.4	16.2	15.5	4.4
Accommodation and Food Services	91.1	88.8	2.6	89.8	87.7	2.4
Accommodation	17.3	17.0	2.1	16.7	16.5	1.3
Food Services and Drinking Places	73.8	71.8	2.7	73.1	71.2	2.6
Other Services	34.3	33.4	2.9	34.0	33.2	2.6
Government	207.2	204.3	1.4	207.8	205.0	1.4
Federal Government	36.7	36.0	2.0	36.2	35.5	2.0
Federal Defense	16.6	16.3	1.7	16.5	16.2	1.7
Other Federal Government	20.2	19.7	2.2	19.7	19.3	2.2
State Government	61.0	60.3	1.2	60.8	60.1	1.2
State Schools	32.7	32.2	1.6	32.6	32.1	1.6
Other State Government	28.4	28.1	0.8	28.2	27.9	0.8
Local Government	109.4	108.0	1.3	110.8	109.4	1.3
Local Education	62.4	61.8	1.0	64.6	64.0	1.0
Other Local Government	47.0	46.3	1.6	46.2	45.4	1.6

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services f = forecast r = revised July 18, 2006

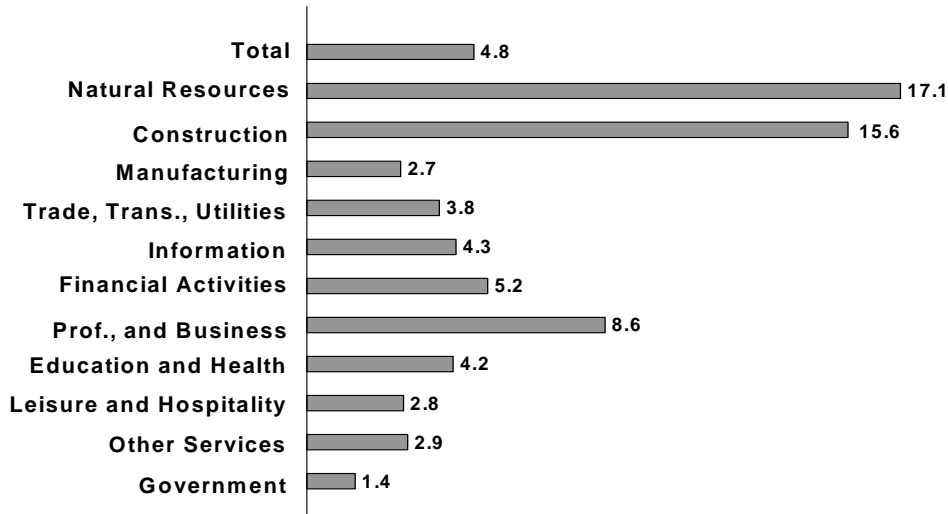
Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

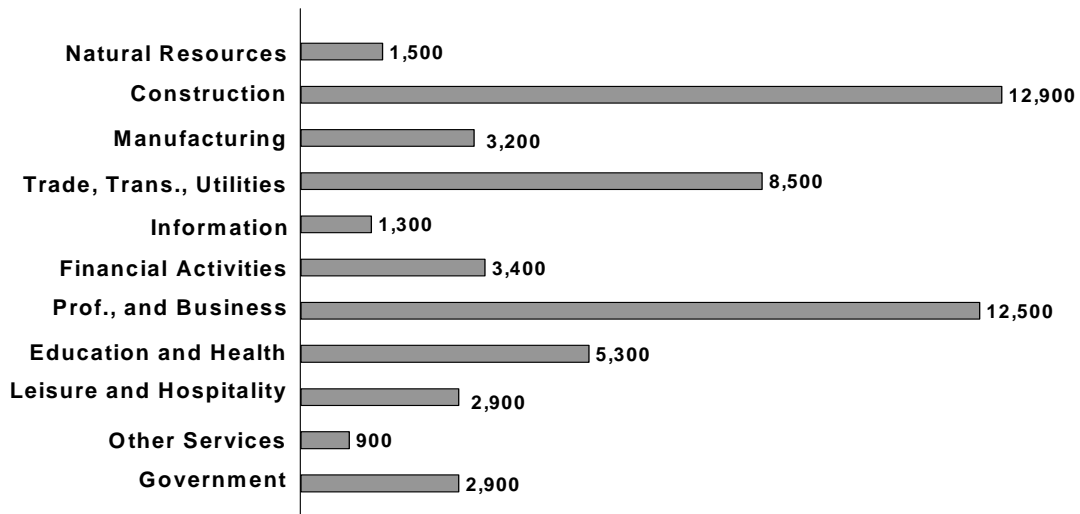


Utah Nonfarm Job Growth (Percent Change) June 2005 – 2006



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

Utah Nonfarm Job Growth (Numeric Change) June 2005 – 2006



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN UTAH'S COUNTIES

	June 2006(f)	June 2005	Percent Change	May 2006(r)	April 2006(r)
State Total	1,204,522	1,149,099	4.8	1,192,584	1,189,390
Bear River	68,544	66,387	3.2	67,880	68,257
Box Elder	20,351	19,134	6.4	20,036	19,800
Cache	47,400	46,472	2.0	47,200	47,900
Rich	793	781	1.6	644	556
Wasatch Front	789,280	758,205	4.1	783,195	778,526
North	196,365	190,360	3.2	193,933	191,403
Davis	101,781	97,766	4.1	99,961	97,421
Morgan	1,981	1,934	2.4	1,969	1,881
Weber	92,603	90,660	2.1	92,003	92,101
South	592,915	567,845	4.4	589,262	587,123
Salt Lake	577,604	553,593	4.3	574,288	572,483
Tooele	15,311	14,252	7.4	14,974	14,640
Mountainland	199,661	188,788	5.8	197,571	201,530
Summit	19,634	17,493	12.2	18,593	20,289
Utah	173,326	165,367	4.8	172,476	175,021
Wasatch	6,702	5,928	13.0	6,502	6,220
Central	25,024	23,686	5.6	24,162	23,658
Juab	3,447	3,229	6.8	3,308	3,209
Millard	4,135	3,980	3.9	4,068	3,926
Piute	315	337	-6.6	306	282
Sanpete	7,634	7,267	5.0	7,341	7,322
Sevier	8,295	7,754	7.0	8,026	7,899
Wayne	1,198	1,119	7.1	1,113	1,020
Southwestern	76,989	71,143	8.2	76,106	75,041
Beaver	2,136	2,063	3.5	2,025	1,951
Garfield	2,720	2,641	3.0	2,474	2,259
Iron	16,546	15,328	7.9	16,952	16,962
Kane	3,651	3,259	12.0	3,279	3,003
Washington	51,936	47,852	8.5	51,376	50,866
Uintah Basin	21,376	18,710	14.2	20,736	20,165
Daggett	634	549	15.4	621	538
Duchesne	6,806	6,025	13.0	6,583	6,373
Uintah	13,936	12,136	14.8	13,532	13,255
Southeastern	23,648	22,180	6.6	22,934	22,214
Carbon	9,870	9,089	8.6	9,668	9,499
Emery	4,260	3,898	9.3	4,201	4,088
Grand	5,131	4,958	3.5	4,853	4,592
San Juan	4,387	4,235	3.6	4,211	4,035

f = forecast r = revised but not final.

Note: Numbers have been left unrounded for convenience rather than to denote accuracy.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information, 7/18/06